

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-7 are currently pending.

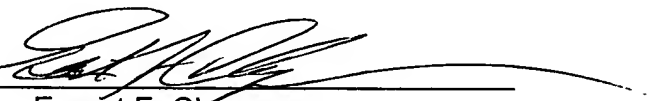
The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 21, 2005

By:   
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961

DWH/FPD/sci